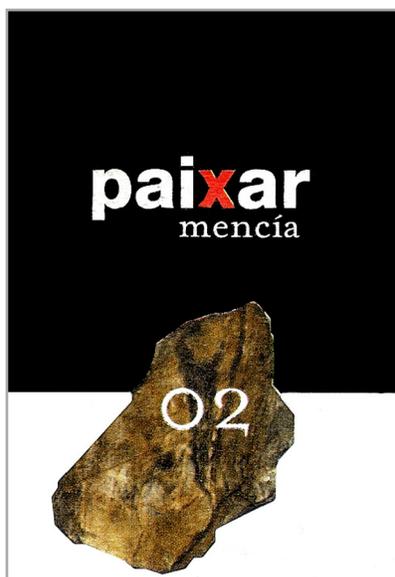


Paixar 2002



Winery: Bodegas y Vinedos Paixar

Region: Bierzo D.O.

Grapes: 100% Mencia

Winery: This is the joint venture of Alejandro Luna, Eduardo and Alberto Garcia focused on the production of a unique expression of Mencia. It started with the acquisition and leasing of tiny parcels of vineyards in the village of Dragonte (population 60) in the Bierzo region. The name Paixar comes from local oral tradition where Paixares are high old plantings of vines surrounded by chestnut and oak trees. Vines are planted directly in weathered slate of different colors and are 80+ years old; typically producing about one pound of fruit per vine. The low-vigor, old vines produce fruit with particularly concentrated aromas and powerful, fine tannins. The vineyards are between 2,500 and 3,000 feet above sea level, a key factor in the slow and even ripening of the grapes. Due to the altitude, harvest is typically 15 days later than the rest of Bierzo.

Wine: Hand-harvested into small boxes, cluster sorted, cold pre-fermentation maceration, native yeast fermentation. This wine was aged for 16 months in new French oak barrels and bottled without any filtration.

Reviews:

“offers a superb aromatic display of blue fruits, crushed rocks, flowers, and a hint of new oak. Abundant complexity, excellent intensity, medium to full body, and a pure, long, delineated mouthfeel suggest it should be consumed over the next 7-8 years.”

90 points *Wine Advocate* issue 159 June '05

“Full medium bright ruby. Crunchy dark berries, violet, bonfire and cinnamon on the nose. Dense, suave and perfumed in the mouth, with sappy flavors of crushed dark berries, black cherry and violet. Finishes very long, juicy and aromatic, with chewy but fine tannins and considerable sweet oak. An excellent if rather oaky example of mencia, built to age.”

90 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 122 Sept/Oct '05

“If you’ve never heard of the Mencia grape, and are resistant to the notion that anything this obscure could make truly great wine, this wine will prove a revelation to you. The fruit shows intense dark berry notes, and these are coupled with a significant but well-measured dose of smoky, spicy oak. A graphite aromatic note provides an accent that gets the wine off to a great start, and lovely mineral notes in the finish bring it to a brilliant conclusion.”

93 points *Wine Review Online* October 3 '06



Selected by Aurelio Cabestrero®

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